

TO
WHOM it may concern:
THE
MANIFESTO
OF
P M
THE
ILLUSTRIOUS.

Carefully collated with the Original Manuscript.

D U B L I N:
Printed in the Year, MDCC LX.
(Price Two-pence.)

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DUBLIN:
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The PRINTER hereof

To the PUBLIC.

LAST Wednesday about Six in the Evening, as I was employed in revising one of the Sheets of an odd kind of Work now in the Press, written, as I am informed, by a late ingenious, but whimsical, Prelate, in which, among other Paradoxes, he attempts to prove, that *It is of some Utility, that the Belief of a World to come should still prevail among the Multitude, and that even the Observation of the Seventh Day might be of Benefit, with regard to Persons in lower Stations*; my Maid-Servant, running in precipitately, brought me Word, that the finest Man she ever saw, a Lord she was sure he must be, was in his Chair at the Door. Hastening out, I found a Gentleman, altogether unknown to me, whose elegant Appearance spake him to be a Person of the first Distinction, who, after having asked me my Name, delivered me a Packet carefully sealed up, with these remarkable Words, "That He was commanded by his Illustrious Master to give into my Hands those *Depêches*, the Contents of which were of infinite Concern to the Happiness of my Country; and that I was re-

"quired, as I valued my own Prosperity, to
 "print and disperse them with all possible
 "Expedition." And so, bidding me *Good Morning*, ordered the Chairmen to move on.

My Surprize at this extraordinary Visit was much encreased, when, upon breaking open the Seal, I found a Parcel of gilt Cards, fastened together with a Piece of a Silver Bodkin, and inscribed with uncouth Characters, which on account of their strange Form I took at first to be *Arabic*, but which, on close Examination, I discovered to be *English*. The manner of Spelling also was somewhat new, and the Lines all slanted from Top to Bottom. However at length, by the help of a certain eminent Antiquarian, I got through them, and here present the Public with what I can say is a faithful Copy, the spelling excepted, of this wonderful Manuscript. The Original I thought it my Duty to preserve, and accordingly I have this Morning lodged it in our University Library, where the Curious may have an Opportunity of perusing it.

April 14th, 1760.

T.O

T O

OUR TRUSTY and RIGHT
DEAR, the MIGHTY of
the Land, the HIGH-
BORN, and the HIGH-
MINDED, of whatsoever
Sex, of whatsoever Con-
dition, whether NOBLE
in Shew, or in Wealth, or
in Spirit,

WE, P A M the ILLUSTRIOUS,
in behalf of OURSELVES and
OUR Royal Kindred, with due
Greeting,

Will it to be known,

THAT OUR Princely Descent, univer-
sally acknowledged, and the Exalted
Honours, with which both OUR An-
cestors and OURSELVES have, from Time
Immemorial, been invested, might justly set
Us above the Necessity of vindicating OUR
Name,

Name, and of returning an Answer to the insolent Insinuations, which, WE are sufficiently informed, vile Miscreants of the Earth have dared to throw out against Us :

THAT, notwithstanding so just a Plea, WE nevertheless, jealous of OUR injured Honour, refuse not to wave the Privilege, to which OUR High Rank and the constant Usage of the Nobly-born might intitle Us, and are ready to vindicate OUR Cause against Any whomsoever, who shall presume to impugn OUR Worth, and vilify OUR Dignity ; hereby casting Defiance in the Teeth of All such, and requiring, that the Exploits and arduous Services, atchieved by Us and Other Illustrious Personages of OUR House, may be entered on the Public Registers of the Land, and that Care be taken, that WE may accordingly receive from All that Return of Respect and Due Homage, which WE so well deserve :

THAT, however, as there is Reason to apprehend, that these Sons of Detraction will not dare to avow themselves, and that, by means thereof, these Matters may not be brought to a speedy Issue, WE therefore in OUR Wisdom deem it proper, thus immediately to proclaim to the World the rightful Title WE have to this OUR Place of Pre-eminence, and to make public Appeal to those well-

well-known Atchievements, by which the Names of Us and OUR Noble Kindred have obtained the honourable Distinctions, of which WE are at present in Possession:

THAT WE might on this Occasion make mention of many gallant Deeds, which WE in Person have lately wrought, having acquitted OURSELVES most valiantly, not only on the bloody Fields of *Lu*, but also in several other hardy Conflicts, and especially on the famed Plains of *Brag*, where WE more than once restored the Battle, and gave Spirit and Firmness to many a yielding Squadron:

THAT WE likewise have it in OUR Power to recite important Services by Us performed to Particular Persons, several illustrious Families deriving a considerable part of their Pomp, and some of them even the first Beginnings of their Splendor, from the kindly Aid WE have vouchsafed to them; many also of the Fair Sex having been frequently preserved by OUR Care, WE OURSELVES having oftentimes, in their Distress, *secretly* conveyed Assistance to them, and been thought worthy to be employed by them as a *Bosom-Friend*:

THAT WE, nevertheless, choose not to insist on these Things, as WE have to produce, not merely private Kindnesses, but
Benefits

Benefits of the most extensive Influence, and Services, far more important to the Public Weal, than Any, that Military Prowess can atchieve :

THAT therefore, unwilling as WE are to set forth OUR own Praises, WE demand it may be remembered, that WE and OUR Princely Kindred have of Antient Date been the Chief Promoters of Learning, and the distinguished Patrons of Polite Literature ; many of the Great Ones of the Earth not having learned even the Rudiments of Reading, but from what the Historical Records and improving Memoirs of OUR Royal House have supplied to them :

THAT the elegant Relations and useful Maxims, delivered in those excellent Memoirs, have so subdued the Indolence observable in Persons of dignified Birth and affluent Fortunes, that even They, who formerly could not, even for some few Minutes, keep their Attention awake to any Subject, can now, during whole Days, employ themselves at *these* with exemplary Application and unwearied Perseverance, and are so persuaded of their Excellence, as to think it beneath them to be conversant in any other Study or Business whatsoever :

THAT

THAT the Learning, which We have thus diffused, has not been, like most other Learning, barren, and only Matter of vain Parade, but that also several eminent Virtues have shot forth from it, Virtues of very beneficial Consequence, and which have always been cherished by every polite sensible People:

THAT an Alteration scarcely credible has been thereby wrought in the Hearts of Many, a boundless Generosity and the most amazing Elevation of Soul succeeding to a fordid and unfeeling Selfishness, so that they, who before were not to be melted by all the Tears of distressed Innocence, they, who unmoved could hear the Groans of a perishing Family, and who would not part with a single Piece, to bestow Life and Rapture on the most worthy of their Fellow-creatures, have, now that they have been instructed out of this admirable Book, the Greatness of Spirit to part with a thousand Pieces in an instant, and, rather than to be deprived of the noble Pleasure of dispensing Wealth, cheerfully retrench even their Luxuries, and think themselves happy with a less splendid Equipage:

THAT the Influence of this excellent Repository of Wisdom is not less conspicuous
B with

with regard to Humility; that many Persons, who, before they were improved by the instructive Precepts it contains, were remarkable for Haughtiness and disdainful Insolence, have now put on the most amiable gentleness of Manners, and courteously admit to their nearest Intimacy those, with whom, in their Days of Pride, they would have blushed to have owned an Acquaintance:

THAT the Evil formerly complained of, *that Merit was neglected*, has no longer Place; and that Men of Industry and Dextrous Parts, who before languished Life away, obscure, and unnoticed, have now daily Opportunity, by means of the exalted Sentiments these OUR Memoirs inspire, to rise suddenly to Wealth, and to enjoy all the Splendor and Delicacies of high living:

THAT the intricate Windings of the Law, which were wont to occasion infinite Delay and Expence, and often baffled the Researches of the most sagacious, have been laid open by the plain Sense taught in this Treasure of Learning, and the tedious Formalities of Courts superseded by the most simple and expeditious Process, six Minutes being at present more than sufficient to decide and convey a Property, which before could hardly have been settled in twice six Years;

Years; and what is most delightful, the Gay and the Fair, who never even saw a Law-book, are qualified to affirm *en dernier ressort*, without so much as the help of a Scrivener :

THAT strict Integrity in Dealing, and a faithful Observance of Promises, have been also very considerably advanced by the Establishments WE have introduced; in so much that even They, who heretofore practised every evasive Art to baffle those, by whom they had been obliged, who laughed at the Anguish of their bankrupt Creditors, and whose highest Sport it was to trample on Justice and to mock Compassion, are now become Men of nicest Honour, punctual to every slightest Obligation, whatever the Expence, whatever the Difficulty, choosing rather to see their Patrimony parcelled among Strangers, and their Children wanting Bread, than to suffer one Demand to remain unsatisfied :

THAT, with regard to Trade, WE have long since by the wisest Men * been numbered among its principal Benefactors, a quick Circulation of Money, which is the Life of it, never having been so effectually promoted as under OUR Influence; that, accordingly, the Wealth, which before lay hoarded up in the Miser's Chest, is at present

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generously

* See the World, N. 181.

generously spread abroad by his spirited Heirs; and that Gold, which during half an Age had never changed its Abode, is now, every passing Moment, shifted with such wonderful Quickness into the Hands of a new Possessor, that the Eye follows it in vain, and its Place is not to be found :

THAT what certain Philosophers of old are said to have taught, concerning an Indifference about Wealth, and a Contempt of Fame, WE not only have taught, but have also caused it to be brought into Practice, far beyond the Example of any of the former Ages ; Many at present, who were born to large Possessions and the first Honours, not only thinking lightly of Riches, but even courting Poverty, not only submitting cheerfully to Reproach, but even hazarding every thing to get rid of a Good Name, and, at infinite Expence and Toil, casting Reputation from them :

THAT Courage in like Manner, without which it cannot be that a People should be truly great, has by aid of OUR exalting Maxims been raised to a far nobler Pitch, than any of those puny Heroes of boasting Greece ever pretended to ; several of OUR Disciples now parting with Life, not by the Weapon of another, not in the Confusion and mad Tumult of a Battle, but in their coolest Moments, from

from serious Choice, and with their own Hands, without any of the paltry Considerations of Religion, or Country, or Glory, to urge them on;

THAT, besides all these invaluable Benefits, WE have also deserved in a very extraordinary manner of the Common Weal, by the many eminent Endowments the Fair Sex have obtained from OUR Influence, their former Delicacy and feeble Spirits being now changed into a lively Firmness and the most robust Strength of Body; so that She, whose weakly Frame did not permit her to watch one Hour by the Cradle of her expiring Infant, or to attend the nightly Wants of a declining Parent, or dying Husband, can now defy the Inclemency of the roughest Season, and hold her Vigils over the instructive Memoirs of OUR Illustrious House, thro' the whole length of a damp and chilling Night; She, whose scrupulous Conscience could not bear to leave undivulged the failing of her unhappy Neighbour, now, free from every sickly Qualm, disclaims Severity, and holds Calumny in Abhorrence; She, in short, whose timorous Virtue would whilom have started from a *Shadow*, now, led on and imboldened by Us, fears not even a *Substance*:

THAT a servile Regard to a Complexion, and frivolous Cares about the Smoothness of

a pretty Face, which in Time of Yore employed the Female Mind, have likewise given way to more generous Thoughts, a pimpled Nose and inflamed Skin being now rather the Test of High Breeding and Finished Manners:

THAT these Revolutions in the Fair World are the more considerable, because, surprising as it may seem, in Proportion as their Bodies have ceased to be delicate, and their Spirits to be infirm, their Sensibility of Heart has encreased; and the cruel Beauty, who was wont to turn her scornful Ear from the soft Pleadings of the tenderest Lover, now, formed by OUR Instructions, listens without Reluctance to the solliciting Swain, and confesses the persuasive Energy of his *effectual* Words:

THAT, to crown all, *Superstition* also, that inslaving Enchanteress of the Human Mind, has at length by OUR repeated Endeavours lost Ground, and seems to be driven within her last Inclosure; her Priests being now obliged to content themselves with requiring from their Votaries not more than two Hours of their Time, once only in seven Days, and these the Hours the most listless and of the least Enjoyment among all the Twenty-four; and even this Request set at naught by all the chosen Spirits of this enlightened Age:

THAT

THAT WE therefore, in Defiance of whatever Detraction may attempt, and moved by the grateful Sense, which the Great Ones of the Earth appear to have of the Services performed by Us and OUR Illustrious Kindred, Do hereby Declare it OUR firm Purpose, to continue OUR beneficent Influence to the Sons of Men, and to endeavour to bring to Maturity, and fully to establish, all those various Improvements, which have begun to flourish under OUR Princely Patronage :

AND to the End that the Honour of OUR Name, and the Respect due to the Records and wise Maxims of OUR Royal House, may completely Triumph, BE IT hereby KNOWN UNTO ALL, that on the *Day* of the *Sun*, that next shall be after the Publication of this OUR Pleasure, and on every such succeeding *Day*, being *that*, on which the *Great Feast* of *Superstition* is said to be held, WE will also, in opposition thereunto, hold OUR Grand Revels, in the most pompous and costly manner, from the Hour of the Sun's Mid-course, or as soon after as may be, to the Morning of the ensuing *Day* ; Of which All, who wish OUR FAVOUR, are required to take due Notice :

TO

To the manifest Advancement of the Public Happiness, and the lasting Glory of the present Generation :

Given at OUR Hotel, in OUR Affectionate and Well-beloved City of *Dublin*, on the Ninth Day of the Fourth Month.

Signed by Order,

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GIDDSPEDDING.

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